

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: March 13, 2020

### **COVID-19**

The City of Cottage Grove issued the attached news release on Thursday, in response to Governor Brown's order and recommendations to help control COVID-19 exposures. The City closed the Cottage Grove Armory until April 13<sup>th</sup> and contacted all upcoming events informing them that the Armory was closed and that their event or activity needed to be moved or cancelled. The City also closed the Community Center/Library building to the public until at least March 30<sup>th</sup>. Staff is still working in the building and can be reached by phone or email. Events in the Community Center are all cancelled or moved to other locations. The Opal Whitely Celebration scheduled for March 21<sup>st</sup> has been cancelled and will be looking for date in the future.

We want to remind everyone to carefully consider the recommendations from Lane County Public Health and the Oregon Health Authority. Anyone with questions should visit those sites for more information or call the Lane County Public Health Community Call Center line at (541)682-1380.

### **Youth Advisory Council Meeting**

The Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council meeting on Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> is cancelled.

### **February 2020 Building Inspection Services Report**

For the month of February the Building Division of the Public Works & Development Department issued 61 permits, 5 for new single family homes, and performed 200 inspections in Cottage Grove. In Creswell 8 permits were issued and 28 inspections were performed. In Veneta, 15 permits were issued and 71 inspections were performed. Staff reviewed and approved 9 plan sets in February and an additional 9 plan sets are in review or on hold for additional information.

### **Police Department Officer Recruitment**

The Police Department is recruiting for lateral or entry-level police officer through the National Testing Network. The recruitment closes at 5:00 pm on Monday, April 13, 2020. All interested applicants must visit the <https://nationaltestingnetwork.com/publicsafetyjobs/> and follow the instructions on the announcement in order to be eligible.

### **Electric Vehicle Charging Station Grant Award**

The City of Cottage Grove received notification this week that it was selected by Pacific Power as a 2019/2020 EV Charging Grant Award winner. With this grant the City will receive reimbursement of up to \$24,756.32 for the installation of two electric vehicle charging stations. The City has chosen to

install one charging station at the Library/Community Center and the other will be located in the City parking lot across from City Hall.

As part of this grant the City will agree to supply usage data to Pacific Power for two years and to acknowledge the contribution by Pacific Power for the cost of the installation. When completed there will be three publicly accessible charging stations located within the City with the two mentioned above serving our historic downtown and community center and the other just off Gateway Boulevard behind The Vintage Inn Restaurant.

The new charging stations in downtown will be connected to an electric vehicle charging network accessible via the internet and/or smartphone allowing vehicles traveling the Interstate to see the stations and determine if there is availability. This connectivity will help bring those in need of a charge into our historic downtown giving local businesses the opportunity to capture a new type of consumer, one who is in need of something to do for 1-3 hours while their vehicle is charging. Thank you to Pacific Power for choosing Cottage Grove and look for the new chargers to be up and running in early summer.

### **Tree Giveaway Wrap-Up**

The tree giveaway is complete and by all accounts a huge success. City staff and members of the Urban Forestry Committee spent the past three Saturday mornings giving away trees to residents of the City with the goal of replacing some of the trees that were lost during last year's snow storm. In total approximately 215 trees were given to residents of the City. The remaining trees will be planted in the City's parks, along the Row River Trail, and at Middlefield Golf Course. Thank you again to EPUD for donating 50 flowering dogwood trees to the City's giveaway.

### *Quote of the Week*

*“Do your little bit of good where you are; it’s those little bits of good that overwhelm the world.”*

*~Desmond Tutu~*